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STREET URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

PUBLIC HEALTH

for

THE YEAR

1947

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

J.H.C. Eglinton
Medical Officer of Health

R.W. Herring
Sanitary Inspector

To:

THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE STREET URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Mrs Hawker and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the state of the public health of the Urban District for the year 1947.

The Ministry of Health in Circular 170/47 dated 31st December 1947 have requested that the Annual Report for 1947 shall be prepared on similar lines to that for 1946. This Report has been prepared, therefore, for reasons of economy in labour and paper in abridged form.

In commenting on the Report it is interesting to note that the estimated population is now over five thousand people.

There has been a large increase in the number of births (110/77) the deaths remaining about the same (52/51).

The Infant Mortality rate remains well under that for England and Wales (27.27/41).

Heart Disease provided the largest number of deaths (19) being just over 36% of the total number (52).

With respect to notifiable infectious disease, no serious epidemic occurred during the year, although there were a number of cases of whooping cough approximating to the number last year (39).

Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis.

England and Wales.

During the year under review the country recorded the most severe epidemic in its history. The total number of notifications for England and Wales was 7,800 giving a notification rate of 18 per 100,000 living. The highest rate previously recorded was in 1938 when it was 4 per 100,000.

We may regard ourselves very fortunate in that only two cases were notified in the Urban District, both recovering. The two cases were visited and enquiries made regarding milk, food and water supplies and a list made of possible contacts, with visits to the swimming bath, and any degree of fly infestation noted. No significant facts emerged from these enquiries.

As a precautionary measure the chlorination of the swimming bath was stepped up; the Infant Welfare Centre and Sunday Schools were closed for three weeks, and the Cinema Authorities' discontinued their childrens' matinee on Saturdays for a like period.

The view has been expressed that perhaps one of the most important facts arising out of our limited knowledge of the method of infection is the paying of strict attention to personal hygiene.

Stress is once again laid on the importance of immunisation against diphtheria particularly as is the case with the rest of the country there has been a falling off in the number of children immunised: viz. 66% (76% in 1946).

The value of the day nursery to the mothers and to industry is particularly noted, and the importance of the nursery being continued in the Urban District under present conditions.

May I once again especially emphasize the importance and the increasing difficulty of the care of elderly people. The congestion in the houses make this problem more acute. The difficulty is increased by the present industrial policy of tempting women away from their homes into part or full time work and this tends to diminish the parent

To:

THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE STRATFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Mrs Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the state of the public health of the Urban District for the year 1947.

The Ministry of Health in Circular 170/47 dated 21st December 1947 have requested that the Annual Report for 1947 shall be prepared on similar lines to that for 1946. This Report has been prepared accordingly, for reasons of economy in labour and paper in abridged form.

In commenting on the Report it is interesting to note that the estimated population is now over five thousand people.

There has been a large increase in the number of births (110/77) the death rate remaining about the same (32/31).

The Infant Mortality rate remains high under that for England and Wales (27.87/41).

Heart Disease provided the largest number of deaths (19) being just over 30% of the total number (52).

With respect to notifiable infectious disease, no serious epidemic occurred during the year, although there were a number of cases of whooping cough approximating to the number last year (30).

Poliomyelitis and Poliencephalitis.

England and Wales.

During the year under review the country recorded the most serious epidemic in its history. The total number of notifications for England and Wales was 7,000 giving a notification rate of 18 per 100,000 living. The highest rate previously recorded was in 1938 when it was 4 per 100,000.

We may regard ourselves very fortunate in that only two cases were notified in the Urban District, both recovering. The two cases were visited and enquiries made regarding milk, food and water supplies and a list made of possible contacts, with visits to the families concerned, and any degree of fly infestation noted. No significant facts emerged from these enquiries.

As a precautionary measure the enforcement of the swimming bath was stopped up; the Infant Welfare Centre and Sunday School were closed for three weeks, and the Chemist Authorities discontinued their children's clinics on Saturdays for a like period.

The view has been expressed that perhaps one of the most important facts arising out of our limited knowledge of the method of infection is the paying of strict attention to personal hygiene.

Stress is once again laid on the importance of immunisation against diphtheria particularly as is the case with the rest of the country there has been a falling off in the number of children immunised: viz. 89% (76% in 1946).

The value of the dry nursery to the mothers and to industry is particularly noted, and the importance of the nursery being continued in the Urban District under present conditions.

Mr. Jones again emphasises the importance and the increasing difficulty of the care of elderly people. The congestion in the houses with this problem here counts. The difficulty is increased by the present industrial policy of keeping women away from their homes into work or full time work and this tends to diminish the potent

guidance to the children in the home so that the children may become more difficult to manage. The result is an increase in the strain and stress in the home which is as bad for the children as for the comfort of the elderly people.

May I in conclusion again express my appreciation to you, the Members of the Council, for your continued courtesy and my thanks to my colleagues for their loyalty and help.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Mrs Hawker and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J.H.C. EGLINTON

Medical Officer of Health

September, 1947.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH 1947

VITAL AND OTHER STATISTICS

Area of the Urban District of Street - 3,069 acres.

	1947	1946
Population -- The estimated population for 1947 was	5,311	4,999
The number of live births, including 3 illegimate births was:	110	77
(53 male, 57 female) giving a live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population of	20.71	15.4
The live birth rate for England and Wales being	20.50	19.10
The number of still births being	3.00	2.00
(male 2 and female 1) giving a still birth rate of	0.56	0.40
The still brith rate for England and Wales being	0.50	0.53
The number of deaths was	52.00	51.00
(26 male, 26 female) giving a death rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population of	9.79	10.20
The death rate for England and Wales being	12.00	11.50

Infants

The number of deaths of infants under one year (all legimitate) (Male 2, Female 1)	3	2
Giving an infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	27.27	25.97
The Infant Mortality for England and Wales being	41.00	43.00

Cause of Deaths (No.52)

Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	2
Influenza	1
Acute Infantile Encephalitis	1
Cancer	7
Intra-cranial & other vascular lesions	9
Heart Diseases	19
Pneumonia	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	1
Nephritis	2
Congenital Malformation Births-Infants	3
All Other Causes	2

Notifications of Infectious Diseases

Measles	7	4
Whooping Cough	36	39
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0
Pneumonia	4	5
Erysipelas	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1
Acute Polioencephalitis	1	1

Notifications of Tuberculosis

Respiratory	5	5
Non-respiratory	2	0

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
1947

VITAL AND OTHER STATISTICS

Area of the Urban District of Street - 3,085 acres.

	1947	1946
Population - The estimated population for 1947 was	5,511	4,990
The number of live births, including 3 illegitimate births were: (Males, 57 females) giving a live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population of	110	17
	20.71	15.4
The live birth rate for England and Wales being	20.90	19.10
The number of still births being (males 2 and females 1) giving a still birth rate of	3.00	2.00
	0.56	0.40
The still birth rate for England and Wales being	0.50	0.55
The number of deaths was (48 males, 34 females) giving a death rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population which is	82.00	81.00
	9.79	10.20
The death rate for England and Wales being	12.00	11.30

Infants

The number of deaths of infants under one year (all legitimate) (males 2, females 1) giving an infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	3	2
	27.27	18.97
The infant mortality rate for England and Wales being	41.00	42.00

Causes of Death (No.82)

Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	2
Influenza	1
Acute Infectio Encephalitis	1
Cancer	7
Intra-cranial & other vascular lesions	9
Heart Disease	19
Pneumonia	6
Other Respiratory Diseases	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	1
Nephritis	2
Congenital Malformation Births-Injuries	2
All Other Causes	4

Notifiable Diseases of Infectious Diseases

Measles	7	6
Whooping Cough	56	39
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0
Pneumonia	2	6
Erysipelas	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1
Acute Poliencephalitis	1	1

Notification of Tuberculosis

Respiratory	5	5
Non-respiratory	2	0

	1947	1946
Tuberculosis		
Number of cases on the register on December 31st	21	20
Respiratory	13	11
Non-respiratory	8	9
Diphtheria Immunisation		
The estimated child population for 1947	1,050	957
The total number of immunisations being	695 or 66%	730 or 76%
Age. 1 - 4 years	194	178
Age. 5 -15 years	501	552

Child Welfare and Nursing Associations

The Child Welfare and Nursing Associations have again maintained a high standard of efficiency and proved of great value to the community.

The Infant Welfare Clinic is held every Wednesday in a portion of the Hindhayes Infant School, where the District Nurses, three in number, ordinarily attend. I attend as Medical Officer on alternate Wednesdays. Voluntary helpers continue to carry out their various duties with efficiency, their work and enthusiasm largely contributing to the success of the Centre.

Various lectures and demonstrations have taken place during the year.

Two sessions of Immunisation against diphtheria, under the auspices of the County Council, have taken place during the year.

The Centre was closed in August for three weeks as a precautionary measure, owing to two cases of Anterio Poliomyelitis arising in the district; there being a number of contacts in the Centre or Nursery School.

Children up to five years of age attend.

The number of babies, i.e. infants under one year, who attended during the year was 1,124 as compared with 896 in the previous year.

The District Nurses in Street - three in number - have again had a busy year, paying a large number of visits, approximating 6000, of various kinds, such as Nursing, Infant, Maternity etc. and have once again by their skill and devotion to duty been a great asset to the district.

The number of old people and chronic cases appear to be on the increase.

Non-Residential Nursery.

The Day Nursery also situated in a portion of the Hindhayes School building, with an additional building providing bathroom, lavatories, kitchen and laundry accommodation, has proved of inestimable value to the district. In the main children of working mothers are accepted, together with (in emergency) children of mothers who are ill at home, and who are being confined at home.

Number of children on the roll is 46 and there is a waiting list of not less than 30 all the time.

Staff consists of a Matron and Warden with five helpers and a part-time cook and cleaner.

Tuberculosis

	1947	1946
Number of cases on the register on December 1st	21	20
Respiratory	13	11
Non-respiratory	8	9

Venereal Investigation

The certified child population for 1947 was 637

The total number of investigations being 695 or 728 per 100 76.8

Age: 1 - 4 years 194 178
Age: 5 -15 years 501 532

Child Welfare and Nursing Associations

The Child Welfare and Nursing Associations have again maintained a high standard of efficiency and proved of great value to the community.

The Infant Welfare Clinic is held every Tuesday in a portion of the Ringbwon Infant School, where the District Nurses, there in number, rendering steady attend. Problems as Medical Officer on the Welfare Committee. Voluntary helpers continue to carry out their various duties with efficiency, their work and enthusiasm largely contributing to the success of the Centre.

Various lectures and demonstrations have taken place during the year.

The Sessions of Inspection of certain dirtiness under the Bye-laws of the County Council, have taken place during the year.

The Centre was closed in August for three weeks as a precautionary measure, owing to a case of Infantile Poliomyelitis occurring in the district; there being a number of contacts in the Centre or Nursery School.

Children up to five years of age attend.

The number of babies, i.e. infants under one year, attended during the year was 1,122 a compared with 896 in the previous year.

The District Nurses in street - dated in number - have again made many visits, having a large number of visits, approximately 5000, of various kinds, such as Nursing, Infant, Maternity etc. and have once again by their skill and devotion to duty been a great asset to the district.

The number of old people and chronic cases appear to be on the increase.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The Day Nursery also attached in a portion of the Ringbwon School building, with an additional building providing bathroom, lavatories, kitchen and Nursery accommodation, has proved of invaluable value to the district. In the main addition of washing machines are accepted, together with (in a very many) children of mothers who are ill at home, and who are being assisted at home.

Number of children on the roll is 60 and there is a waiting list of not less than 20 all the time.

Staff consists of a Matron and Assistant with five helpers and a part-time cook and cleaner.

The County Council is the responsible authority.

Infestation

No case of infestation was reported during the year.

Mr. R.W. Herring, Surveyor, Sanitary Inspector and Water Engineer reports as follows:-

The Huts

The ex-army huts situated at Wood's Batch and along Somerton Road continue to be occupied and inspections have been made. Where practical and with the limited amount of material urgent repairs have been carried out.

The control of the administration of the huts becomes increasingly difficult as a result of continued squatting.

Factories Act, 1937

Under the above Act prime inspections are made by the Factory Inspector, any defects being communicated to the Local Authority. During 1947 two such communications were received and dealt with, viz: necessary periodical white washing in connection with two bakeries.

Water Supply

State:

(i) Whether the water supply of the area and of its several parts has been satisfactory (a) in quality, (b) in quantity;

(ii) Where there is a piped supply, whether bacteriological examinations were made of the raw water and, where treatment is installed, of the water going into supply; if so, how many and the results obtained; the results of any chemical analyses;

(iii) Where the waters are liable to have plumbo-solvent action, the facts as to contamination by lead, including precautions taken and number and result of analyses;

(iv) Action in respect of any form of contamination;

(v) Particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the number of the population supplied from public water mains (a) direct to the houses, (b) by means of standpipes. This information should be given separately in respect of each parish in a Rural District).

Observations: on (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), and (v) - for rural districts give answer to (v) in parish form on separate sheet.

(i) (a) Analyses wholly satisfactory excellent reports.
(b) No supplies have been restricted.

(ii) Samples taken of water going into supply (monthly)
No chemical analysis taken in 1947.

(iii) No plumbo solvent action - water hard.

(iv) No contamination - all water chlorinated at source.

(v) (a) 1,400 houses - population 5,400
(b) 6 - standpipe - population 25.

(v) (b) continued:
Water also supplied to parishes in Wells R.D.C. as follows:- Rodney Stoke, Godney, Polsham and Sharpham.

Extensions or improvements of Supplies during year.

Bulk water afforded to parish of Walton, Wells R.D.C. at Street boundary.

Post War Proposals: give in Priority Groups, parishes or villages concerned and estimated cost (1947 prices).
Any observations.

See M.O.H. Water Survey, for Bristol, Bath and Mendip Area.

Sewage Disposal

Give any extensions of sewers, new works or improvements during year

NIL

Post War Proposals: give Priority Group 1, villages concerned, estimated cost (1947 prices). Any observations.

NIL

Housing

	Houses erected during year		Houses in course of erection		Conversion to flats or dwellings
	Perm	Temp.	Perm	Tem.	
Local Authority	20	-	18	-	-
Private Enterprise	-	-	7	-	-
TOTALS	20	-	25	-	-

Houses required:

(a)	to replace those unfit	see below
(b)	to abate overcrowding	
(c)	where conditions are unsatisfactory, e.g. two familiss living in same house, but not included in (a) or (b)	
	Total number of applicants for Council Houses at the end of the year	250

Any observations respecting the above

Note:- Houses Required No housing survey has been made since 1936, but it would appear that with 250 applicants for Council Houses (and in many cases overcrowding) together with 80 families squatting, at least 100 houses could be occupied.

Milk

(a)	Total number of Registered Dairy Farms	17
(b)	Number of Retailers	11

(v) (h) continued:

Water also supplied to premises in Wells R.D.C. as follows:- Redney Stoke, Godney, Blagdon and Sharpham.

Extensions or improvements of supplies during year.

Bulk water afforded to parish of Wrington, Wells R.D.C. at Street boundary.

Rest Water Proposals: Give in Priority Groups, parishes or villages connected and estimated cost (1947 prices).
Any observations.

See R.D.C. Water Survey, for Brislsl, Bath and Mendip Area.

Sewerage Disposal

Give any extensions of sewers, new works or improvements during the year

XII

Rest Year Proposals: Give Priority Group I, villages connected, estimated cost (1947 prices). Any observations.

XIII

Housing

	Houses erected during year		Houses in course of erection		Conversion to flats or dwellings
	Form	Temp.	Perm	Temp.	
Local Authority	20	-	18	-	-
Private Enterprise	-	-	7	-	-
TOTALS	20	-	25	-	-

Houses remained:

(a) to replace Bomb units
(b) to house overcrowding
(c) where conditions are unsatisfactory, e.g. two families living in same house, but not included in (a) or (b) — nil

Total number of applications for Council Houses at the end of the year — 250

Any observations regarding the above

Note:- Housing Survey: No housing survey has been made since 1939, but I would report that 250 applications for Council Houses (not in new) cross overcrowding) together with 80 families requiring, at least 100 houses could be assigned.

XIV

(a) Total number of Registered Dairy Farms — IV
(b) Number of ...tations — 11

Milk continued:-

(c)	Number of Producer-Retailers included in (b)	6
(d)	Number of Licensed pasteurising plants	-
(e)	Number of Heat-Treatment Plants not included in (d)	-

Any observations

Ice Cream

No. of premises registered for

(a)	manufacture	Nil
(b)	sale	13

Any observations

One hot and one cold process carried out on premises within area - otherwise all made outside.

Slaughter Houses

Number of Licensed Slaughter Houses in District	Nil
Number of Registered Slaughter Houses in District	4
Number of Slaughter Houses used where horses are slaughtered for human consumption	Nil

Names of any in use under Ministry of Food:-

NIL

Any observations

Not now used owing to meat distribution regulations.

River Pollution. Any cases dealt with during the year.

NIL

Knackers Yards

Number Registered in your District NIL

XIII. continued:-

(c) Number of Producer-Retailers included in (b) 5
(d) Number of Licensed restaurants, cafes -
(e) Number of Fast-Transport Plants not included in (a) -

Any observations

I e Cream

No. of premises registered for
(a) manufacture NIL
(b) sale 10

Any observations

Use not made are milk products certified and/or pasteurised within area - otherwise all made outside.

Slaughter Houses

Number of Licensed Slaughter Houses in District NIL
Number of registered Slaughter Houses in District 4
Number of Slaughter Houses used where meat intended for human consumption are slaughtered NIL
Reason of any in use unfit for human consumption

NIL

Any observations

Not now used owing to more distribution regulations.

River Pollution. Any cases dealt with during the year.

NIL

Rat-Bite Fever

Number Registered in your District NIL